

and burros that they may deem necessary in order to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 92-195, § 11, formerly § 10, Dec. 15, 1971, 85 Stat. 651, renumbered Pub. L. 94-579, title IV, § 404, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2775.)

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions of this section relating to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture submitting a joint report to Congress every twenty-four months on the administration of this chapter, see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and page 147 of House Document No. 103-7.

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CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in sections 1375a, 1543, 1881, 1881a, 1881b, 2407, 2408, 3125, 6406 of this title; title 10 section 7524.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERALLY

§ 1361. Congressional findings and declaration of policy

The Congress finds that—

(1) certain species and population stocks of marine mammals are, or may be, in danger of extinction or depletion as a result of man's activities;

(2) such species and population stocks should not be permitted to diminish beyond the point at which they cease to be a significant functioning element in the ecosystem of which they are a part, and, consistent with this major objective, they should not be permitted to diminish below their optimum sustainable population. Further measures should be immediately taken to replenish any species or population stock which has already diminished

below that population. In particular, efforts should be made to protect essential habitats, including the rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance for each species of marine mammal from the adverse effect of man's actions;

(3) there is inadequate knowledge of the ecology and population dynamics of such marine mammals and of the factors which bear upon their ability to reproduce themselves successfully;

(4) negotiations should be undertaken immediately to encourage the development of international arrangements for research on, and conservation of, all marine mammals;

(5) marine mammals and marine mammal products either—

(A) move in interstate commerce, or

(B) affect the balance of marine ecosystems in a manner which is important to other animals and animal products which move in interstate commerce,

and that the protection and conservation of marine mammals and their habitats is therefore necessary to insure the continuing availability of those products which move in interstate commerce; and

(6) marine mammals have proven themselves to be resources of great international significance, esthetic and recreational as well as economic, and it is the sense of the Congress that they should be protected and encouraged to develop to the greatest extent feasible commensurate with sound policies of resource management and that the primary objective of their management should be to maintain the health and stability of the marine ecosystem. Whenever consistent with this primary objective, it should be the goal to obtain an optimum sustainable population keeping in mind the carrying capacity of the habitat.

(Pub. L. 92-522, §2, Oct. 21, 1972, 86 Stat. 1027; Pub. L. 97-58, §1(b)(1), Oct. 9, 1981, 95 Stat. 979; Pub. L. 103-238, §3, Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 532.)

AMENDMENTS

1994—Par. (2). Pub. L. 103-238, §3(1), inserted “essential habitats, including” after “made to protect”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 103-238, §3(2), inserted “and their habitats” before “is therefore necessary” in concluding provisions.

1981—Par. (6). Pub. L. 97-58 substituted “carrying capacity” for “optimum carrying capacity”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 4 of Pub. L. 92-522 provided that: “The provisions of this Act [enacting this chapter] shall take effect upon the expiration of the sixty-day period following the date of its enactment [Oct. 21, 1972].”

SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-555, §1, Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2765, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 1421f-1 of this title, amending sections 1362, 1421g, 1421h, 1433, 1434, 5101 to 5103, 5106, 5107a to 5108, and 5156 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 917a, 1433, 5101, and 5107 of this title, and amending provisions set out as a note under section 1855 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Striped Bass Conservation, Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Management, and Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Act of 2000’.”

Pub. L. 106-555, title II, §201, Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2767, provided that: “This title [enacting section 1421f-1